

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 EUR-12 /110 W

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R 220915Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2534

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRAZILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

/AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS PRETORIA 3174

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SF, PFOR, UYU SF, AR, BR

SUBJECT: VORSTER'S LATIN JOURNEY PROMPTS SPECULATION
OF MORE TO COME

REF: (A) ASUNCION 327*(B) MONTEVIDEO 2866

1. SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER VORSTER RETURNED HOME
AUGUST 18 FROM SIX-DAY TRIP TO PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY.
ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, VORSTER GENUINELY ENTHUSIASTIC
ABOUT VISIT RESULTS AND SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING ANOTHER
SOTH AMERICAN JAUNT (TO, AS YET, UNIDENTIFIED COUNTRIES)
PERHAPS BEFORE END
OF YEAR, TRIP PROMPTED JOURNALISTIC SPEC-
ULATION THAT VORSTER ALSO CONTEMPLATING "PRIVATE" VISIT TO
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U.S. TO MEET WITH AMERICAN INDUSTRIALISTS AND TO PAY

INFORMAL CALL ON WASHINGTON FIGURES. PRESS STORIES HINT THAT THIS TRIP, TOO, COULD BE IN NEAR FUTURE, WITH AT LEAST ONE U.S. -BASED CORRESPONDENT (GUY BERNARD) SUGGESTING THAT PM MIGHT SEEK TO ADDRESS UNGA. (WE VIEW THIS AS HIGHLY UNLIKELY.)

2. ON
ACDEMIC CRITIC QUOTED IN PRESS PRIOR TO RECENT JOURNEY STATED THAT, IF VORSTER INTENT ON IMPROVING SOUTH AFRICA'S CREDENTIALS AS A DEMOCRATIC NATION, HE COULD DO BETTER THAN PARAGUAY'S STROESSNER AS A COMRADE-IN-ARMS. HOWEVER, CRITICISM NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY BY SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS MEDIA WHICH HAVE BEEN UNANIMOUS IN APPLAUDING VORDR AND FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER FOR ATTEMPTS TO BREAK SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION AND, NOT INCIDENTALLY, PROMOTE POTENTIALLY LUCRATIVE CROSS-SOUTH ATLANTIC TRADE.
BOWDLER

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